

CREATIVE PROJECT: Modern Identity: In a State of Flux

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PAGES: 22

I. Abstract

Modern Identity: In a State of Flux is a study of container forms and an investigation of women's roles in the family during the last 100 years. The two subjects may seem unrelated, but they have much in common. Women, like containers, come in different shapes and forms. Each woman has her own personality, her own goals, and her own life; containers store utilitarian objects and personal objects. The subject of women and family were chosen as my subject because of my desire to understand my existence as a daughter, woman, and wife. This thesis has focused on constructing representational forms with one or more openings that reveal contents for a woman of 1900, 1950, and present day. I considered different objects women have typically possessed such as purses, hats, perfume bottles, shoes or clothing. I chose shoes. Shoes are something that all women own regardless of wealth or social status. They enclose and secure women's feet, offering stability to the body as it moves about in daily life. The objects contained inside the shoes are symbols that represent knowledge I gained while reading various texts about women's roles, family structure and the transition of women from 17th century to present. Each shoe opens, presenting elements that relate a woman's daily life in that time frame. My hope is that the viewer will consider the social status of women in society and want to interact with the pieces to discover more information.